(c) if so, the action taken against the persons responsible for this act of negligence?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The NDMC has reported that the encroachments have the tendency to re-appear after their removal. The jhuggi dwellers had removed the railings provided by the NDMC and the same have been refixed after removal of the 18 encroachments on 4.11.1997.

[English]

United Airlines Tie up

379. DR. T. SUBBA RAMI REDDY:
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the American Airline giant "United Airlines" is expanding air travellers market in Asia and is willing to hold talks with the Indian Companies for a possible tie-up;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any agreement with India has been considered ; and

(d) if so, the details of the final agreement signed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) to (d) Air India has already entered into a Code-share agreement with United Airlines on seven services, each operated by United Airlines on Los Angles-Delhi-Los Angles and Washington-Delhi-Washington sectors. Code-share on Los Angles-Delhi-Los Angles sector *via* Hongkong is presently under suspension due to certain objections raised by the Hong Kong authorities.

Air Miss Incidents

380. SHRI V.M SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing "Air Miss" incidents that have taken place during the last one year; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) There have been two incidents of air miss during the year 1996 and four during 1997 till date.

(b) DGCA has formulated requirements which have been issued through Civil Aviation Requirements for mandatory installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance system (ACAS) on aircraft and Mode 's' transponders.

The main steps taken to avoid chances of mid-air collision are: (i) Refresher courses to update professional knowledge of Air Traffic Controllers, (ii) Periodical proficiency checks of Air Traffic Controllers, (iii) Monthly random analysis of ATC tape transcripts to ensure that Air Traffic Controllers use standard phraseology and follow the laid down procedure while giving instructions to aircraft, (iv) Appropriate action against Air Traffic Control Officer (ATCO) involved in ATC incidents,(v) Modernisation of Air Traffic Services at Delhi and Mumbai airports, and (vi) Proper maintenance of navigational communication and landing facilities.

[Translation]

AIR Station in Uttar Pradesh

381. SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Farrukhabad and other surrounding districts like Etah, Etawah, Mainpuri, Badaur, Shahjahanpur, Hardoi are demanding for setting up A.I.R. stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no demand for setting up of AIR Stations/ Relay Centres at these places. All these places are fully covered by All India Radio Network in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Time to Marathi Programme on DD

382. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate time is given to Marathi programmes on Doordarshan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested for alloting more time to Marathi programmes on Doordarshan ; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?